

U.S. Application No. 09/837,437**RSW9-2001-0006-US1****Reply to final Office Action dated December 28, 2005****REMARKS****I. Summary of the Office Action and this Reply**

Claims 1, 3, 6, 8, 9, 11 and 14-31 are pending in the application.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the acknowledgement of allowable subject matter in claims 11, 18-20, 25-28, and 31.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 3, 6, 15, 16, 19, 21, 23, and 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), asserting that such claims are obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,711,283 to Soenksen ("Soenksen") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,803,931 to Roman et al. ("Roman"). The Examiner has rejected claims 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), asserting that such claims are obvious over Soenksen in view of Roman and U.S. Patent No. 5,717,869 to Moran ("Moran"). Claims 14, 17, 29 and 30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over various combinations of Soenksen, Roman, Moran, U.S. Patent No. 5,553,225 to Perry ("Perry"), and U.S. Patent No. 5,263,134 to Paal ("Paal").

In this Reply, claim 1 is amended to incorporate certain recitations of claim 11, and claim 15 is amended to incorporate recitations of claim 16. Claims 21 and 23 are amended to incorporate recitations of claims 22 and 24, respectively. Claims 11, 15, 21, and 23 are canceled. Claims 8 and 9 are amended to be consistent with amended claim 1. No new matter is added.

II. Applicant Initiated Examiner Interview

Applicant conducted a telephone interview with the Examiner on November 7, 2005, for which a form PTOL-413A was provided. In partial summary thereof,

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agreement was reached that Soenksen does not disclose a slider "comprising a second portion positioned outside of and adjacent to said image" as recited in claim 16.

Claim 16 remains rejected in the outstanding Action. However, the Action does not cite any grounds for the rejection in relation to this feature. Clarification of the Examiner's position, or allowance of claim 16, is respectfully requested.

III. Withdrawal of the Finality of the Action as Premature

The outstanding Action includes 103 rejections over newly cited art (Roman) of claims not amended in Applicant's preceding Reply. The finality of the Action is premature, pursuant to MPEP 706.07(a).

Withdrawal of the finality and consideration of the amendments and remarks herein are requested respectfully.

IV. Response to 103 Rejections

A section 103 rejection is proper only if all claim limitations are taught or suggested by the cited art. MPEP §2143.

Claims 1, 3, 6, 8, 9, 14, 25-28 and 31

Claim 11 has been acknowledged as allowable. Independent claim 1 is amended herein to incorporate certain recitations of claim 11, namely, to recite two intersecting sliders. See claim 1. Accordingly, amended claim 1 is similar in certain respects to allowed claim 18. Further, such intersecting sliders in the claimed context is neither taught nor suggested by the cited art. Claim 1 is thus allowable.

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Claims 3, 6, 8, 9, 14, 25-28 and 31 depend from claim 1 and are likewise patentable.

For at least these reasons, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1, 3, 6, 8, 9, 14, 25-28 and 31 are requested respectfully.

Claims 15, 17, 29 and 30

As referred to above, it is believed that claim 16 is allowable, and was not properly rejected. Independent claim 15 is amended herein to incorporate the recitations of claim 16. Thus, amended claim 15 is allowable. Claims 17, 29 and 30 depend from claim 15.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 15, 17, 29 and 30 are requested respectfully.

Claim 21-24

Claims 22 and 24 depend from claims 21 and 23, respectively, and include recitations similar to those of claim 11, namely, recitations relating to two intersecting sliders. Accordingly, claims 22 and 24 are believed allowable for reasons similar to those set forth for claims 11 and 18. Claims 21 and 23 are amended herein to incorporate the recitations of claims 22 and 24, respectively, and are thus allowable. Claims 22 and 24 are canceled.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 21 and 23 are requested respectfully.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants believe claims 1, 3, 6, 8, 9, 14, 15, 17-21, 23 and 25-31 to be patentable and the application in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request issuance of a Notice of Allowance. If any issues remain, the undersigned requests a telephone interview prior to the issuance of an action.

Respectfully submitted,

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